A Love Letter Which Has Not a Word

Love in It. Abraham Lincoln's offer of marriage was a very curious one, and, singularly enough, it has but recently come to light. Numerous as his biographers have been, and closely as they have gleaned for new facts and materials, it was left for the latest one, Mr. Jesse Weik, of Greencastle, to discover this unique and characteristic production of Mr. Lincoln's almost untutored mind. The letter is one of several written, presumably, to the lady he afdear Mary," it read as follows:

You must know that I can not see you or think of you with entire indifference; and yet it may be that you are mistaken in regard to what my real feelings toward you are. If I knew you were not, I should not trouble you with this letter. Perhaps any other man would know enough without further information; but I consider it my peculiar right to plead ignorance, and your bounden duty to allow the plea. I want in all cases to do right, and most particularly so in all cases with women. I want at this particular time, more than any thing else, to do right with you; and if I knew it would be doing right, as I rather suspect it would, to let you alone, I would do it. And, as possible, I now say you can drop the subject. dismiss your thoughts-if you ever had anyfrom me forever, and leave this letter unanswered without calling forth one accusing murmur from me. And I will even go further, and say that if it will add any thing to your comfort or peace of mind to do so, it is my sincere wish that you should. Do not understand by this that I wish to cut your acquaintance. I mean no such thing. What I do wish is that our further acquaintance shall depend upon yourself. If such further acquaintance would contribute nothing to your happiness. I am sure it would not to mine. If you feel yourself in any degree bound to me, I am now willing to release you, provided you wish it; while, on the other hand, I am willing and even anxious to bind you faster, if I can be convinced that it will in any degree add to your happiness. This, indeed is the whole question with me, Nothing would make me more miserable thanto believe you miserable; nothing more happy than to know you were so. In what I have now said I think I can not be misunderstood; and to make myself understood is the only object of this letter. If it suits you best not to answer this, farewell. A long life and a merry one attend you. But if you conclude to write back, speak as plainly as I do. There can be neither harm nor danger in saying to me any thing you think, just in the manner you think it. Your

LINCOLN. Probably this is the queerest love letter on record, and the most remark- HE DISCOVERED A CONFEDERATE KNEELING able offer of marriage ever made. It and a proposal of marriage that does not propose. Every line of it breathes admiration, affection, devotion, unsel- Grant, and fully realizing his chief's danger, lady he was addressing, but it does not mention love.-Indianapolis Journal.

YOUTHFUL MARRIAGES. Some of the Mistakes Made by Romantic

Young Men and Women. There is a diversity of opinion on the subject of youthful marriages. It may be a question whether young people know their own minds sufficiently well before the age of twenty-two to hazard a final choice. Taste changes very much between the age of eighteen and the age above mentioned. Many who have made their choice earlier have carried it out from a sense of honor and not from love, because a wider range of choice has shown them. too late, alas! their mistake. The burdens of life are heavy enough to bear without adding this, the sorest of

Where the husband and the wife really love each other they get along well through the vicissitudes of life. because one immeasurable source of happiness always remains to them whatever disasters betide, and that is their unfailing sympathy with each other. Nothing less and resumed his place as fireman at one of than this enables a young couple to endure with equanimity all the cares and anxieties and disappointments of married life. Nothing is more common than to see two young persons marry with the approval of the families and all the friends on each side. "What a fortunate match for both of them!" every one exclaims. To outside appearance it is. A little time elapses-it may be a few years, or it may be only one-when, to the surprise of their acquaintances, it is announced that the marriage has turned out unhappily. The explanation is simple-there was no love between them. There was a degree of friendship; there was a mutual expectation of advantage from the connection, but love there was not. For the ordinary ransactions and relations of life respect and friendship are all that are remired. It is not so in marriage. Nothing there will supply the place of love. The belief that there are substitutes for it is one on which many a gay and hopeful young couple have trusted their happiness, only to find it a total wreck.-Philadelphia Record.

Time to Reform the Calendar.

An ingenious Yankee, with an eye to adjusting himself to his environment. has moved a reorganization of the calendar. Winter, he contends, should begin on January 1 and include March; spring should commence with April and include June; July, August and September should constitute summer, and the fall, beginning with October, should not end till after Christmas. His new calendar would play the mischief with traditions, but it would come nearer to actual experience than does the present antiquated European article. The procession of the equinoxes is too slow altogether for the American climate. Facts are on the side of reform, and if the weather does not speedily repent and bring forth frui s more meet for repentance than rank grass and dropsical potatoes, the newly-established Department of Agriculture will be called on to revise the calendar.-Brooklyn Citizen.

-A farmer entered a store at Pottstown, Pa., and inquired the retail price of nails, then the price per keg of 100 pounds. The latter being much less, he asked if the store-keeper would take back what he had left if he did not use the whole keg, and was told yes. He took the keg, and some days later returned it minus four pounds of nails, which he offered to pay for at ker prices. He was accommodated.

LUKE MASON.

A Thrilling and Romantic Story of the Late Civil War.

BY JOHN R. MUSICK, AUTHOR OF "BROTHER AGAINST DROTHER, "HELEN LAKEMAN," " WALTER BROWN-FIELD," "BANKER OF BEDFORD." AND OTHER STORIES.

[Commighted, 1889.]

CHAPTER VII.-CONTINUED. "The Rebs are comin' over in boats!" some one cried, and the alarm spread throughout the army. The excellent generalship of the Commander alone saved the Union forces from utter rout.

Companies could not be got together, and regimental organizations could not be fully maintained. Stragglers were scattered everywhere, some searching for dead or wounded friends others on plunder bent, and not more than one-half of them reterward married. Addressed to "My mained at their post, or heard an order given by the officers.

Luke, with about fifteen of his company started down the hill. Already the head of the column was well under way. He discovered that he was not even with his own regiment. Firing could now be heard below the hill

First a few dozen shots, then volley after volley, while the roar of artillery shook the earth. The soldiers became veterans once Luke found himself in a field of corn. He had thrown away his sword and picked up

a musket, which he deemed a more available weapon. He became separated from his for the purpose of making the matter as plain men, remaining in the rear as one of the guards to cover the retreat while the army was embarking. Most of the soldiers were already on board.

Luke was hurrying through the corn when he discovered a Confederate kneeling behind a corn-hill, aiming his rifle at a



BEHIND A CORN HILL.

is a love letter without a word of love horseman whose form could be dimly outlined in the fluttering blades and waving tassels.

fishness desire for the lady's happi- Captain Mason leveled his gun to shoot the ness, the writer's sense of unworthi- rebel. But at this moment a sharp report, ward upon his face in the dirt. Luke turned to see who had fired the shot and discovered the negro Blackhawk stealing away but a few paces in advance of the

General, whose life he had saved. Luke and Blackhawk reached the steamer just as it was swinging off, leaving General eyes. Grant on shore. Luke told the captain, who ordered the boat back. The General alighted from his horse amid a storm of balls, and the horse, taking in the situation, put his hind feet under his body, slid down the bank and trotted aboard, and the General with a red-cheeked country girl. followed, the stage-plank was drawn in and the boat cast off.

CHAPTER VIII.

FORT DONELSON. On the 7th of November, 1861, the Missis sippi river was low, so that the banks were higher than the heads of the men standing on the upper decks of the steamer. From cornfield, woods and all along the shore Confederate riflemen were blazing away at some distance from the river, so their fire was high and did but little harm. The smoke-stacks were thickly peppered with bullets, but only three men were wounded after reaching the boats, two of whom were soldiers, and one a member of Captain

Mason's company. negro wonder, had laid down his musket the great furnaces.

most completely worn out by exertion and when a voice without shouted: "Surrender!" the nervous strain, went to the captain's room adjoining the pilot-house and threw himself down on a sofa.

body of rebel sharp-shooters running along a saber thrust against his breast, while the

"General," he said, looking in at the door, "I don't think you are as safe here as you would be below. The rebels are pursuing us along the shore.'

"Are not the gun-boats replying to them? asked the General, springing to his feet and going to the door where Captain Mason stood. At this moment there came a crash and a musket ball entered the room, passed through the head of the sofa where the chief had lain and lodged in the foot. General Grant cast a glance at the couch where he had been reposing, and, taking the young officer's hand in his, with a quiet smile, said:

"Captain, you have saved my life." They went below. The gun-boats, open ing on the enemy, sent shells shricking and exploding into the wood and cornfield. They were well out in the stream and some dis tance down, so they had to give but little elevation to their guns to clear the banks of afterward. They conveyed the prisoners to the river. Their position nearly enfiladed the enemy marching through the cornfield. Luke began to look about for the members of his company. He found Arkansaw Tom, Ned Cotton, Corporal Max and Bill Snow near the stern, firing as rapidly as they could at the heads of the rebels who were peeping over the river banks.

"Dod rot 'im-bet I spiled that'ns pictur," said Tom, reloading his gun. "Ef they'd only a let me brung my rifle I'd laid out more'n one on 'em.'

The boats soon carried them beyond gunshot, and sped peacefully on their way to Cairo, each now feeling that Belmont had been a great victory, and that he had contributed his share toward it. Captain Mason had cause to be proud of the work he had done toward establishing the right of that grand old flag to wave all over the United

States of America. Every man in that conflict, small and insignificant as it was compared to the struggles which followed, gained confidence in himself and that quiet, stern commander, who was destined to lead the armies of the

Nation to final victory. The boats returned to Cairo, and a long period of inactivity followed. A few days after his return from the battle-field, Luke received a letter from Lillie Neff. They had The field, the march, even at dead winter, returned shortly after the troops passed was preferable to lying in the camp. by their house, and learned that he had by gallantry saved it. She stated that she prayed daily that he and her brother might January, 1862.

be spared, and that this cruel war might come to an end. Her letter concluded with: I seed Gineral Grant 'n Commodoore Foote | fered severely. Not being able to lie upon the "Blackhawk has disappeared from the neighborhood, and it is supposed that he bet they git a move on 'em purty soon." ground, most preferred standing or stamping or dancing to keep their feet from freezhas run away. I do not understand that Arkansaw Tom was correct, for on the strange negro. He has been an enigma to me ever since I was a child. When but a little girl I always shuddered when his yellowish black eyes met mine, and I then | Foote accompanied the advance led by Mothought him in league with the Evil One, Clernand, General Grant following. and, oh! Luke, I fear he hates you; if you should ever meet him, beware of him. now!" said Arkansaw Tom, as he marched kansaw Tom, who, with his blanket wrapped

you meet him again, dear Luke, be it on the battle-field or wherever it may, remember that though he is your enemy, he is my brother, and, if possible, spare him."

"Yes, yes; I have spared him, and I will spare him," sighed the young soldier, bowing his head in his hand. "But is not this, after all, a battle between brothers? Oh, cruel indeed is war at best, but this fratricidal strife is snapping the heart-strings of the best in the land."

He promptly answered her letter in as cheerful a strain as he could, hoping that their difficulties would soon be removed and peace spread her white wings over the land. From beginning to end his letter was replete with expressions of tenderest love. The month of December, 1861, was spent

in drilling and disciplining the troops for the long, hard marches, sieges and heavy battles that were before them. Occasionally small scouting parties were sent out into the country for the purpose of reconnostering. Camp life had grown irksome to Luke, and he gained permission to go with a small body of cavalry on one of their expeditions into a neighborhood in Kentucky reported to be filled with rebel guerrillas. As Luke was leaving he met the captain of the steamer on which he had gone to Belmont, who informed him that "that nigger fireman, Blackhawk, had deserted them." "He is a strange being," said Luke,

thoughtfully. "I'll have him tied up and whipped if I

can find him," the officer retorted. Luke mounted his horse and rode away to the boat, which conveyed him and his party across the river. It had been raining that morning, and the woods and earth were still damp from the flood. They did not reach the Kentucky shore until late in the afternoon, and the heavy mist which enwrapt hill, valley, grove and town hid them from any prying eyes which might be on the watch for them. They traveled slowly along the wooded road long after nightfall had set in. Their guide was a trusty fellow who knew every foot of ground. They were liable to be fired upon by bushwhackers at any time, consequently the officers carried pistols and the soldiers carbines ready cocked in hand to defend

their lives against an attack. Luke and the Captain were riding side by side just behind their guide, when that personage drew rein and said:

"There's sum wun ahead o' us." The officers could make out a dark figure approaching them, and instantly both leveled their pistols at it.

"Hole on dar, massa! don't ye go fur t' shootin' dis ere niggah!" said a husky voice. 'Tse come han ter show ye to de house whar am some rebs 'n bush-

There was a halt and a few moments' conversation, and then they inquired about the numbers of the enemy in the house, and

informed that there were but six. 'Lead the way," said the Captain of the cavalry, and they rode slowly forward until their dusky guide halted upon a hill and pointed down into a dark glade where there window of one of those log cabins occupied by squatters so common in certain parts of Kentucky at the time of which we write. "What is going on down there?" Luke

asked, as the sounds of a squeaky fiddle came to his ears. "Dancin'," said the negro. a number of horses hitched to the trees great frowning guns of the fort. ness and his genuine adoration of the a few paces on his right, a puff of about the house. So secure were the revsmoke, and the Confederate plunged for- elers that not even a guard had been left of the enemy, some one said: without to give a note of alarm in case an

> Leaving the dragoons but a short distance away, Luke and the Captain crept down to the log house and through the chinks got a glimpse within. Here a scene greeted their A dozen Confederate soldiers and officers

enemy should approach.

were in the room, their faces flushed with Kentucky whisky. A one-eved negro was sawing away on a squeaky old fiddle, while each Confederate was going it at a gallop "Yo! hi! whoop 'em up; swing yer pard-

ner, allaman left! Whoop 'em up!' shouted a large, red-headed fellow in his shirt sleeves, who, from his total lack of uniform. was evidently a citizen, and without doubt the proprieter of the house. "By gosh, Sal, don't kick so high ur ye'll

knock a feller's nose off'n his face. Look out, ole woman, ur ye'll punch my eye out with yer derived old snuff stick. All promenade, balance t' yer pardner, right hand the retreating boats. The rebels were back t' yer pardner an' grand right 'n' left. Look out, Bill, can't ver keep ou ver legs!" "Te-'t - tee tee - a - tee did-diddle-a-dee,' sung out the old squeaky fiddle, until the red-headed host shouted: "Ladies t' ther seats an' gents t' the jug."

Then there was a shout of laughter and a scampering away to the high two-On reaching the boat, Blackhawk, the gallon stone jug which stood in one corner. "Maw, git the gourd an' issue ther rashions ter the boys," said the red-headed host. A thick-set woman brought a gourd On reaching the deck General Grant, al- and was pouring out some liquor into it "The deuce you say !"cried the host, springing to his double-barreled shot-gun over his door. But before he could lay his hand upon Luke saw him go in, and also noticed a it the door was open and the sharp point of

> doors and windows were black with the muzzles of carbines. "Sold!" groaned the red-headed squatter. 'Why, maw, we're two derned fools, ber

"The first man who moves dies," said Luke Mason, leaping into the cabin, a cocked pistol in each hand They stood motionless as statues, and the girls sniffled and cried at the fate of their sweethearts. The cavalrymen disarmed them and marched them out one at a time.

As the last one passed out of the house under the escort Luke turned to go, when the black face of their informant appeared at the door, and with a chuckle the negro

"Golly, Massa Mason, ye's got 'em." "What! Blackhawk, are you here?" But that mysterious, spirit-like personage itted away into the darkness and disappeared, nor was he seen any more for weeks

camp without any trouble. Then came another long period of inction. Camp life became irksome to many



"I want t' fight ur go home,"

"Ye'll git plenty o' fightin' now, I bet, fur

Brother wrote me of your saving his life—
oh! I can not thank you too much. Should aboard the transport "We'll smell powder 'fore we git back."

The soldiers were all in the best of spirits, and cheered lustily as they went board the steamers. Poor fellows, they little dreamed how many of them were on a campaign from which they would never re-

Luke's regiment, with several others, was conveyed to a point a few miles below Forts Henry and Heinzman. Here they disembarked in a muddy forest, and the men being without tents, and it being dead winter, they suffered severely. The cannonading at Fort Henry could be distinctly heard, and the wild cheers that went up on the air when the fort was taken reached their

For a day or two they remained in their position, and then received orders to advance on Donelson. Through mud, rain and snow the long columns of infantry, followed by baggage trains and artillery, wended their way along the wooded road. "Why didn't the fool officers wait till warm weather," growled Max, who, with his knapsack and blanket, could scarce keep

"'Cos yer got tired o' layin' in camp,' chuckled old Arkansaw Tom, who trudged along at his side. "Ye wanted somethin do'n I guess ye've got it." The men found travel so slavish and dif-

ficult that many of them began to throw

away knapsacks and blankets. "Don't throw them away," said Captain Mason. "You will need them-keep them." "Need 'em, thunder!" growled Max, staggering along in the mud, the perspiration streaming from his face; "we don't need any thing t' keep us warm on this blasted march. I've a mind t' throw my

cloak away." "Better change yer mind," said Tom. Luke assured them that when they camped they would need their blankets, but many became so exhausted that they threw them aside notwithstanding his assurances. Evening came on. Luke gazed back on the long line of men trudging silent and gloomy through the mud, and noted how poorly they were prepared for the storm with which they were threatened. The sky became overcast and a heavy gloom settled

ver the forest. They went into camp at dusk. A fine cold rain set in, and the men began to sorely need the blankets they had thrown away. "What in thunder 'm I goin' t' do?" growled Max: "there's no place dry nuff to

lay on 'n no blanket fur kiver." "Shouldn't ha' throwed 't away," said Arkansaw Tom, who had been wise enough to carry his. "Co'se ye didn't need 't on th' march, but th' minit ye stop ye git cold all over, then yer want it mighty bad." Bivouacked in mud and rain, the army was

miserable enough. The sick and wounded

were left at the houses they passed. A few shots on their advance next morning told that the enemy's scouts were on the watch for them. They marched all day and the next, and when evening had come Luke was informed that Fort Donelson was near. Here, in a

ravine, almost within sight of the fort, our was a light gleaming. It came from the friends encamped for the night. It snowed before morning, and many of the soldiers had their feet frosted. It was dark when Colonel Smart's regiment went into camp, and Captain Mason saw nothing, save a few distant camp-fires, to indicate the nearness of an enemy. He

woke at early dawn, and going up to the top They crept a little nearer, and discovered of the hill, found himself in full view of the While he still stood gazing on the works Look down the river!

Turning his eves toward the river, which was in full view, he saw the Commodore's little fleet of five guns-boats steaming towards the fort. The St. Louis, Louisville and Pittsburg were iron-clads, and the gunboats Tyler and Conestoga were of wood. Captain Mason expected the conflict to commence at once, but in this he was mistaken, for after the exchange of a dozen shots the boats fell back, and it was three o'clock in the afternoon before the Commodore began the battle in earnest.

CHAPTER IX.

THE SURRENDER. "Now, boys, watch; suthin's gwine ter It was Arkansaw Tom wh happen!" spoke to his companions lying at his side. Captain Mason again turned his attention to the river, and saw the entire fleet under way to the fort as if it intended to run the

Boom! boom! rang out the



CAPT. MASON WAS

tremble with each successive shot. Great solid balls and shells of iron went screech ing through the air, now darkened with

For an hour the boats were enveloped in a dark vapor from which the sullen flashes of fire and death issued. While the gun-boats were making such sad havoc among the land batteries and dismounting gun after gun, the fleet was getting considerably pounded by the rebel guns.

The leading boat was within two hundred yards of the river, and the roar of cannot incessant. At such close quarters the exe cution must be terrible, and Luke saw one boat after another dropping down the river visibly disabled. The whole fleet soon followed, and the engagement for the day was

The wild cheer from the rebel works gave

evidence that they supposed they had gained Captain Mason was still watching the disabled boats when the Adjutant came galloping by and told him to form his men. "Fall in!" cried Captain Mason.

"Oh, thunder! more mud tramping, growled Corporal Max. The regiment was soon in line, and headed by the iron-gray-haired Colonel, who went on foot leading his horse, they moved off to the right until they came to McClernand's division, which they had been or-

dered to support. Two or three regiments joined the divis ion, and all prepared to pass the night miserably enough.

The sun went down on the night of the 14th of February, 1862, leaving the army confronting Fort Ponelson in any thing but a comfortable condition. The weather had turned intensely cold; the men were without tents and could not keep fires. An occasional firing had been kept up all along the line of works, and Berges' sharpshooters had during the day kept a line of

The ground froze hard that night, and the soldiers, without fire or blankets, suf-"Can't you sleep, corporal?" asked Cap-

up to his chin, still shivered. "Sleep! no." growled Max, his teeth chat tering. "I'm freezin'." "Better ha' kept yer blanket!" said Ar

The same of the sa

tain Mason, who, with his overcoat buttoned

SCIENCE OF ROBBERY.

Laws Favoring Monopolies the Prime Any person in the United States who appens to have in his possession \$34.51 has what would have been his it been divided equally among the Ocean: 50,000,000 people in the country in the census year 1880. Call this the cash value of the individual in this country. In France this value is more \$54.57; in the Netherlands it is in Germany, \$16.90.

This does not represent the wealth not wealth. A citizen of the United claim them and uphold them without States with only \$34.51 may be in comfortable circumstances, but if he were suddenly set down in an uninhabited country with a thousand times that very uncomfortable indeed. The wealth of a country consists in its supnumber of people in the country determine whether this supply is proportionately large or small. If the number of people increases faster than the supply of necessaries of life, the country grows poorer.

If the supply increases faster than state it, but until it is fully underthe American people, as it is not now, the majority of the American people will be poor-and oppressed by those who do understand it.

In the census year 1860 the cash United States was \$1,000, or thereabouts. This set of muscles was called a slave. Its cash value was an affair for its owner. It had nothing to do with money. It was supplied with the necessaries of life without money. Two decades later when the cash value of these sets of muscles was vested in themselves and not in their former owners, it had sunk from \$1,000 to \$34.51.

Whether this was an actual or only apparent shrinkage is determined by ier Journal. whether or not \$34.51 will buy as the cash value of free muscle is that much less than that of muscle the Buffalo Express (Rep.). cash value of which was in 1860 artihuman labor-machine.

We have stated these facts thus a tax.—Cleveland Plain Dealer, minutely in order to lead up to the statement of another of the highest importance. It is this:

trols in that country all who have Argus.

need of them. If this control is vested in the Government whose influence does not self to be is the most dangerous enemy actually control it in its actual work- the pensioners could possibly have at ing are slaves of Government and the head of the bureau. The Grand have only such a cash value as the Army should be the first to demand Government sets on them. This aver- that he shall be removed -Philadel-

ready stated-\$34.51. As money, though itself worthless, under it, must control both the money and the supply of what money will States does this. Its control of the divided out as family property." average human who lives under its laws is absolute and it oppresses him, by reason of his ignorance and the selfishness of those who have more brains three minutes, "not knowing the than he. It is easy for brains to facts," as he frankly confesses, the escape the operations of laws, which Ohio State Journal (Rep.) says: work indirectly for the oppression of ... There is no man in the public servthe average human. The more indirect the law, the worse the oppression, for the harder it is for the average human to understand; and the more easily evaded it is by those who the oppression of the unintelligent The average human in the United States to-day is oppressed. He is the slave of a hard master, and that master is the Government which shuts him in its slave pen of custom-houses and stints him in the supply of things

body and mind. These are hard truths. They may revolt some, but they are true and unexaggerated. They constitute a frightful wrong against weakness, but there is no wrong without a remedy and the remedy here is brains. The average human must get brains-not such orains as he has always had, but better brains; not such common sense as he has always had, for he has always been oppressed in spite of it. Noman who has not uncommon sense enough to understand the science of robbery and oppression as well as Mr. Andrew Carnegie does is fit to be a citizen of a country free enough to allow thinking men to oppress those who can not or will not think. -St. Louis Republic.

Nepotism in Federal Offices.

Mr. Robert Peel Porter should not bany (N. Y.) Argus.

DEMOCRATS AWAKE

Their Activity a Thorn in the Side The untiring vigilance of Democrats is causing uneasiness among our Republican friends. For instance, take share of the money of the country had this paragraph from the Chicago Inter

"The Courier-Journal remarks that 'Americans do not know how to rest.' That is especially true of the Democratic party. They don't seem to know how, and yet the people have given them a first-class opportunity."

No, the people do not expect the \$37.26; in Great Britain, \$24.08, and Democratic party to rest. At the last election a majority of 100,000 declared in favor of Democratic principles, and of any of these countries. Money is the people expect the party to pro-

resting, without hasting. Each day makes plainer the evil tendencies of the Administration of Mr. Harrison. Every pledge concernamount his circumstances would be ing the civil service has been violated. Every promise made in behalf of the tariff has come to naught. The surply of the necessaries of life, and the plus in the Treasury is being squandered recklessly by every department, while the conduct of the Pension Office has reached the proportions of a National scandal.

The teachings as well as the practices of the Republican party are undermining free institutions. That the number of people, the country party is striving to establish a cengrows richer. The man who has in tralized plutocracy on the ruins of his pocket his cash value as an popular and local government. We American, or the sum of \$34.51, is not are to be dazzled by the splendors of "worth" as much in cash as a international diplomacy, and kept Frenchman whose cash value is quiet by liberal expenditures for every \$54.57, but he is worth twice as much | imaginable object. Under the plea of if he can exchange his \$34.51 for aiding the State schools they are to be twice the value of articles of need as made dependent on Federal bounty. the Frenchman can his \$54.57. This Taxes collected from the people in is determined solely by the quantity 1861 are to be returned to the States of articles of need in reach. The after the lobbyists have subtracted money itself is a mere token. This is their commissions. The army is to so simple that it seems unnecessary to be increased, millions are to be spent in steamship subsidies, the iniquitous stood by a controlling majority of tariff will be maintained to supply funds for a mythical navy and for building sea-coast defenses from Alaska to Florida.

In view of such a policy of extravagance and corruption, it is not strange value of a good set of muscles in the the Democrats are on the alert and eager for the coming conflict. They are to see that no harm comes to the Republic; hence their untiring activity will increase until the Republicans are driven from power.--Louisville Courier-Journal.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

----Any discontented Republican can be harmonized as Colonel Bradley was. A fat office soothes the most

· Secretary Noble has appointed a as from the lack of that nice perception much of the necessaries of life now as committee to investigate the re-rating of the little things by which pleasure \$1,000 would in 1860. If less, then of pensions. This action, in itself, is is conferred or pain inflicted. - Yankee a rebuke to Commissioner

-- The tariff discussion has its ups ficially increased by the artificial and downs but ever continues its good system of actual proprietorship of the work of educating the people in the truth of the statement that the tariff is

---While the relations between Secretary Noble and Commissioner Tanner are strained, the latter is using Whoever controls the supply of the his office as a strainer for the money necessaries of life in a country con- in the Treasury .- Albany (N. Y.)

-- The truth is that such a reckless and unscrupulous demagogue and ernment, then all people under Gov- charlatan as Tanner has proved him-

age cash value in 1880 we have al- phia Telegraph (Rep.). -Thomas Jefferson said: "The public will never be made to believe is exchangeable for worth, the Gov- that the appointment of a relative is ernment, which seeks to control the made on the ground of merit alone, money-worth of the average human uninfluenced by family views; nor can they ever see with approbation offices, the disposal of which they intrust to buy. The Government of the United their Presidents for public purposes

-Of Assistant Postmaster-General Clarkson, who removes Democratio postmasters and appoints Republican successors at the rate of one every ice who is doing more work this year than Mr. Clarkson. He is a public servant worthy of the name."

-A terse statement of the policy do understand it; who, in the act of the Indianapolis Sentinel as having evading it, use it as an instrument for been made by a gentleman of that city who had voted for Mr. Harrison in order to get a better civil-service reform than he thought he could get from Mr. Cleveland. "What do I think about Harrison's civil-service policy? Well, I feel about it as the fellow felt about the circus. It's so necessary to the full development of

bad that it's really good." -As to the issue of tariff reform, nobody who adopted it during the campaign, even among those who adopted it reluctantly, has shown the slightest disposition to drop it or to evade the consequences of its adoption. The personal enemies of Mr. Cleveland, in the press and elsewhere, and the legislative agents of the manufacturers who profit by the abuses of the tariff, necessarily attempt to make capital out of the defeat of the party on a platform of tariff reform, but they conspicuously fail to make either capital or converts. - N. Y. Times.

The Democrats Must Go.

Assistant Secretary George S. Batcheller does not believe in keeping any Democrats in office. He declares that he will get rid of every Democratic clerk in the Treasury Departforget to devote a special chapter of ment who has entered the classified the census to nepotism in the Federal service without being regularly certioffices. The list, so far, is Baby fied by the Civil-Service Commission. McKee's father, Grandpa Scott, the Those who, during the last adminis-President's brother, the President's tration, passed "some sort of examison's father-in-law, the President's nation," and were appointed to clerkwife's cousin, the President's wife's ships, must go. Had the Democratic nephew, the President's wife's niece's administration adopted General husband, the President's brother-in- Batcheiler's rule, there would not law, the President's nephews provided have been a Republican clerk left in with a place in Washington Territory any of the departments. Prior to and in Cincinnati, the private secre- January 16, 1883, every clerk was aptary's brother-in-law, the Secretary of pointed on the spoils system plan and State's son, the Secretary of State's was not subjected to any examination. brother, the Pension Commissioner's General Batcheller can not plead suctwo daughters, the Indian Commis- cessfully such a flimsy excuse for parsioner's wife, the Indian School Super- tisan action. Every clerk appointed intendent's wife and a hundred others during the Democratic administration distantly related to the family.—Al- had to undergo a regular examination. -. N. Y. Star.

PITH AND POINT.

-Many a cow stands in the meadow and looks wistfully at the common.

-The best wolf is the wolf that has never seen a sheep. - Atchison Globe. -When the opportunity of a man's life presents itself he usually waits for an introduction. -Boston Post.

-Foily must hold its tongue while wearing the wig of wisdom. -J. A.

Macon. -Education does not hurt a young man if he has good common sense to go with it .- N. O. Picayuna.

-Virtue will catch as well as vice by contact; and the public stock of honest, manly principle will daily accumulate. -Burke.

-Cowardice asks, Is it safe? Expediency asks, Is it politic? Vanity asks, Is it popular? But conscience asks, Is it right? -As ceremony is the invention of

wise men to keep fools at a distance. so good breeding is an expedient to make fools and wise men equal. -Man charges the debit of his profit and loss account to Fate; but the credit

he takes to himself. This is true in the moral as well as the material world .- Puck. -No one can have a true idea of right until he does it, any genuine reverence for it till he has done it

often and with cost, any peace ineffable in it till he does it always and with alacrity. -J. Martineau. -That discipline which corrects the baseness of worldly passions, fortifies the heart with virtues principles, enlightens the mind with useful knowledge and furnishes it with enjoyment from within itself, is of more consequence to real felicity than all the pro-

vision we can make of the goods of fortune. -Blair. -Age resisted means steady growth in artificiality and frivolty; age accepted means deepening experience and widening life. Some one has said, with the deepest wisdom, that the way to get the most out of life is to accept completely each stage of it. to drink to the bottom the cup which youth and maturity and age hold to the lips, and so to take from life all

that lies in its hands. - Exchange. -"Good manners are the shadows of virtues, if not the virtues themselves." Real politeness is that delicate vision which appreciates apparent trifles and the tact and sympathy quick to find a ready application. It is oil to the machinery of social and domestic life. violent of patriots. - Louisville Cour- Impoliteness does not so often proceed from carelessness, nor from malignity,

EXPERT TESTIMONY.

What an Erudite Lawyer Has to Say on This Subject. "One of the most practical demonstrations of the unreliability of expert testimony that ever came under my notice was made about three months

"A manufacturer of jewelry, well known to the trade, sold to a lady customer a jewel supposed to be a sapphire, for \$430. It was arranged that he should mount it in a gold ring with other stones for an additional sum of \$334, and a week later the article was delivered and paid for. Soon afterward the lady visited Paris, where she was informed by a jeweler that the supposed sapphire was not a genuipe

stone, but was a 'doublet,' and was of comparatively small value. 'This naturally caused the lady much mortification, and a friend who was coming to America consented to take the ring to the manufacturer who sold it and have an explanation. This programme was carried out and the ring was examined by the jeweler and his brother. The latter immediately pronounced it a doubtlet. His conviction on this point was so strong that

even the seller's belief that it was a genuine sapphire was shaken. "Before consenting to take it back or to refund the money the dealer said he wished to see the importer from whom he had purchased it. There was a possibility, he added, that the importer had unwittingly given it to him as a real stone, or the stone might have been changed while in the hands of another jeweler for repairs. There was some evidence showing that the gold work in the setting of the blue stone was not the style of work of the

man who set the original. "Several well-known jewelers who were shown the stone stated that it was not a genuine sapphire, and the man who had mounted it said it was not the one he had fitted into the ring.

"It was not until after this array of

testimony had been read that the dealer's counsel requested the court to give its permission to have the stone removed from the ring and tested, for it had occurred to him at the last moment that it might be a genuine sapphire after all. "Accordingly the counsel in the case, accompanied by the referee. went to a disinterested setter and had

the stone removed from the ring. It

was submitted to examination and test

by a lapidary and a number of expert jewelers, as well as by one of the original expert witnesses for the plaintiff. They pronounced the stone a genuine sapphire. "Upon the unexpected discovery counsel for plaintiff applied for leave to discontinue the case without costs. The court promptly denied the action and the defendant was allowed all the costs incurred the purchaser in the

\$430, the original price of the stone." -Jewelers' Weekly. He Looked Pleasant

case, which considerably exceeded

Mr. Lenz (photographer)-I have not, for a long time, had so good a sitter as you are. The expression is exactly right. How did you gain such control over the facial muscles? Are

you an actor? Mr. Rhodster-No. sir. Mr. Lenz-Well, well! Perhaps you are a bicyclist?

Mr. Rhodster-Yes, I am. Mr. Renz-Ah, that explains it! It comes from riding the machine on stone pavements, and trying to look as if you enjoyed it.-Puck